



M E D I A R E L E A S E

State of Tennessee
Department of Education

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New Grants Will Create Community Partnerships for Student Health

Nashville, TN- Governor Bredesen and the Department of Education announced today 19 grants to school districts across Tennessee to establish a Coordinated School Health program. Each district submitted a plan to establish community partnerships across their district to educate students about healthy living and increase their students' capacity to learn. Tennessee is the first state in the nation to build a coordinated school health program for every child in the state.

"The Coordinated School Health program will build a strong foundation for better health across Tennessee," said Governor Bredesen. "These programs will improve learning and contribute to lifelong wellness for children. The partnerships in each school district will create a model for successful living in our communities."

Tennessee's Coordinated School Health program began in 10 school districts in 2001. The pilot sites formed their programs on the model developed by the Centers for Disease Control to engage students, parents, school personnel and the community in creating a culture that emphasizes physical activity and healthy eating habits as well as mental, emotional and social health. The ongoing pilot programs are located in Henry County, Loudon County, Macon County, Monroe County, Putnam County, Stewart County, Tipton County, Trenton Special School District in Gibson County, Warren County, and Washington County.

Nineteen school districts will receive grant awards to begin their own program. The awardees are:

School District	Grant Amount
Campbell County	\$75,000
Carter County	\$85,000
Cheatham County	\$54,856
Giles County	\$67,000
Greene County	\$95,000
Humboldt County	\$60,000
Humphreys County	\$59,000
Johnson City Schools	\$82,000
Johnson County	\$69,000

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Lauderdale County	\$82,000
Memphis City Schools	\$179,427
Murfreesboro City Schools	\$75,000
Obion County	\$64,000
Overton County	\$60,000
Rogersville City Schools	\$64,000
Sumner County	\$95,000
Unicoi County	\$65,000
Van Buren County	\$45,000
White County	\$60,000
TOTAL AWARDS	\$1,436,283

“Good health is essential to student achievement and enables children to come to school prepared to learn every day,” said Education Commissioner Lana Seivers. “These districts will join the pilot sites as models of cooperation in building healthier communities across Tennessee.”

The Coordinated School Health program is another approach that will join with Project Diabetes and the GetFitTN campaign to promote healthier living for all Tennesseans. The establishment of the Tennessee Center for Diabetes Prevention and Health Improvement will also provide grants that create solutions for combating the proliferation of Type 2 diabetes. The GetFitTN campaign will raise community awareness about the causes of this epidemic and promote strategies for healthful living. For more information about the Coordinated School Health program, please contact Rachel Woods at 615-253-1960.

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